EXHIBIT B

Technical Management/Industrial Property

Schlumberger

To: Christophe Leleu

7th October 1997

From: Maxime Petit

Reference: 74-241

Object: Invention Specification

cc: Luc Benoit

We acknowledge receipt on the 4th September 1997 of your invention specification entitled "Method for measuring sound" dated 29th August 1997.

In accordance with the intellectual property code, of which the relevant Sections L. 611-7 and 9 and R. 611-1 to 10 are reproduced on the back of this sheet, we classify your invention in the category of those inventions that are owned by the employer, namely so-called "service" inventions such as defined under paragraph I of section L. 611-7. More specifically, it appears that your invention has been made within the framework of your duties as a design engineer, carried out in the engineering department of the Water Energy & Thermal Development Division (Division Eau Energy Thermique) in Mâcon, and the works which has been assigned to you, relating to ultrasound thermal power counters.

Kindly notify us of your agreement by returning a duplicate of the present letter with the indication "read and approved" followed by your signature and date.

Intellectual Property Division

Handwritten indication "read and approved": _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name of the Inventor: _____

Excerpts from the Intellectual Property Code

Section L. 611-7. - If the inventor is an emp[illegible] the industrial property rights, failing any contractual stipulation th[illegible]d be more favorable to the employee, are defined according to the follo[illegible]g provisions:

1. The inventions made by the employee within the framework of an employment contract involving any inventive activity corresponding to his/her actual duties, namely research and development activities explicitly entrusted to him/her, are owned by the employer. Conditions, under which the employee, author of such invention, is granted a complementary payment, are determined in accordance with the collective agreements, business agreements, and individual employment contracts.

If the employer is not subject to group-specific collective agreements, any dispute regarding said complementary payment shall be subject to the conciliation board instated by Article L.615-21 or the High Court of Justice.
2. (Act Nr 94-102, Feb. 5th, 1994, sec. 22) All of the other inventions are owned by the employee. However, should an invention be made by an employee, either while performing his/her work activity, or within the firm's field of activity, or through the knowledge or use of techniques or means specific to or data provided by the firm, the employer, under conditions and within a time frame prescribed by decree in the State Council, may be assigned the property or entitlement of all or part of the rights pertaining to the patent protecting his employee's invention.

The employee should be paid the right price for it, which, failing an agreement between both parties, is fixed by the conciliation board instated in accordance with section L. 615-21 or by the High Court of Justice: these bodies will take into account any material made available to them, in particular by the employer and the employee, for assessing the right price both as a function of the initial contributions of either of them and of the industrial and commercial applicability of the invention.

3. The employee author of an invention will thereby notify his/her employer, who will acknowledge this in accordance with the terms and time frames defined by the regulations.

The employee and employer should communicate to each other any useful information about the invention in question. They should refrain from any disclosure that might jeopardize all or part of the installment of the rights conferred by the present book.

Any agreement between the employee and his/her employer relating to an employee's invention should, on pain of nullity, be certified in writing.

4. The terms of application of the present section are established by decree in the State Council.

5. The provisions of the present section are also applicable to Civil Servants working in public organizations and any other moral persons of public right, in accordance with the terms fixed by decree in the State Council.

Section L. 611-9. - The inventor, whether employed or not, is mentioned as such in the patent; he/she may also reject this mention.

Section R. 611-1. - The employee author of an invention immediately sends a declaration to the employer to inform the latter of this invention.
In case of a plurality of inventors, a joint declaration may be made by all inventors or only some of them.

Section R. 611-2. - The declaration will contain a sufficient amount of the information detained by the employee for the employer to assess into which of the categories provided under sub-sections 1 and 2 of section L-611-7 the invention should be classified.

This information relates to:

1- The object of the invention as well as its contemplated applications;

2- The circumstances of its realization, such as: received instructions or guidelines, experiments or studies performed by the firm, that have been used, or obtained collaborations;

3- The classification of the invention as viewed by the employee

Section R-611-3.- When the classification implies that the rights should be assigned in the benefit of the employer, the declaration will be accompanied by a description of the invention.

This description discloses:

1- The problem that the emp[illegible] was seeking to resolve possibly taking into account prior art;

2- The proposed solution to this problem;

3- At least one exemplary embodiment possibly accompanied by drawings.

Section R.611-4. - If, contrary to the classification of the invention resulting from the employee's declaration, the employer's assignment right is later recognized, the employee, if necessary, shall immediately complete the declaration with the information required in accordance with Section R. 611-3.

Section R. 611-5. - If the employee's declaration does not comply with the provisions of Section R. 611-2 (paragraphs 1 and 2) or, when applicable, Section R. 611-3, the employer notifies the person concerned of the precise points requiring completion.

Such communication shall be made within two months from the date of receipt of the declaration. Failing this, the declaration shall be deemed to be certified.

Section R. 611-6. - Within an allowed time of two months, the employer shall provide an agreement regarding to the classification of the invention resulting from the employee's declaration or, failing the provision of any classification indication, shall notify the employee, though a justification letter, of the retained classification.

The two-month allowed time runs from the date of receipt by the employer of the employee's declaration, which contains the indications according to Section R. 611-2 or, in case of a request for additional information recognized as being justified, from the date at which the declaration was completed.

The employer who does not take part in the prescribed allowed time is deemed to have accepted the classification resulting from the employee's declaration.

Section R. 611-7. - The time allowed to the employer to claim the right of assignment is four months, provided no other agreement has been reached between the parties, which can only be subsequent to the declaration of the invention.

This allowed time runs from the date of receipt by the employer of the employee's declaration, which contains the indications according to Sections R. 611-2 (paragraphs 1 and 2) and R. 611-3 or, in case of a request for additional information recognized as being justified, from the date at which the declaration was completed.

The claim for the assignment right is made by sending to the employee a letter specifying the nature and extent of the rights, which the employer intends to reserve.

Section R. 611-8. - The allowed times provided in accordance with Sections R. 611-5 to R. 611-7 are suspended when a contentious action is engaged as regards to ~~the~~ validity of the declaration or the correctness of the classification of the invention invoked by the employee, or when the conciliation board is called upon for the same purposes according to Section L. 615-21.

The allowed times are resumed from the date at which a definitive decision has been made.

Section R. 611-9. - Any declaration or communication originating from the employee or the employer shall be made through registered letter with a request for receipt acknowledgement or through any other means allowing the proof to be shown that it has been duly received by the other party.

The declaration according to Section R. 611-1 may result from the National Industrial Property Institute sending to the employer, in accordance with the terms decided by the Minister in charge of Industrial Property, the second copy of a letter addressed by the employee to the Institute where it will be preserved.

This procedure is optional for actions (inventions) concerned by the first subsection of section L. 611-7.

Section R. 611-10. - The employee or employer shall refrain from any disclosure of the invention for as long as a disagreement remains as to its classification or as long as no decision has been made in this respect.

If one of the parties, in order to preserve its rights, files a patent application, it shall promptly notify the other party of this fact by sending a copy of the filing material.

It thus uses up all of the faculties offered by the applicable laws and regulations to postpone the publication of said application.